

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-based method comprising:
- receiving a request for data;
 - retrieving, from a filter registry in response to said request, a rule set for a plurality of partial filter adapters wherein, upon being chained together said plurality of partial filter adapters converts source data to said data; and
 - building a filter using said rule set wherein said filter comprises a chain of said plurality of partial filter adapters wherein each partial filter adapter includes a generic format independent interface and said generic format independent interface is used in passing data from one partial filter adapter in said plurality of partial filter adapters to another partial filter adapter in said plurality of partial filter adapters; and
 - processing a subset of the source data by said filter to produce said data.

Cancel Claim 2.

3. (Currently Amended) A computer-based method ~~according to Claim 1~~ comprising:
- receiving a request for data from a device;
 - determining data formats supported by said device
 - wherein said data formats includes at least two data formats including at least a second data format and a third data format;
 - selecting said second data format for a format of said data;

retrieving, from a filter registry in response to said request, a rule set for a plurality of partial filter adapters wherein, after being chained together said plurality of partial filter adapters can be used to convert source data to said data; and

building a filter using said rule set wherein said filter comprises a chain of said plurality of partial filter adapters wherein each partial filter adapter includes a generic format independent interface and said generic format independent interface is used in passing data from one partial filter adapter in said plurality of partial filter adapters to another partial filter adapter in said plurality of partial filter adapters wherein said filter converts said source data from a first format to a said second format.

Cancel Claim 4.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 43, wherein said selecting said second data format further comprises:

using a selection scheme including at least one of the following criterion: storage space required by said data in each of said at least two data formats supported by said ~~process~~device; conversion time for said data from said first data format into each of said at least two data formats supported by said ~~process~~device; and a quality for each of said at least two data formats.

Cancel Claim 6.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said generic format independent interface is a Simple API for XML interface.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of Claim 1~~ A computer-based method comprising:

receiving a request for data;
retrieving, from a filter registry in response to said request, a rule set for a plurality of partial filter adapters wherein after being chained together said plurality of partial filter adapters can be used to convert source data to said data; and

building a filter using said rule set wherein said filter comprises a chain of said plurality of partial filter adapters wherein each partial filter adapter includes a generic format independent interface and said generic format independent interface is used in passing data from one partial filter adapter in said plurality of partial filter adapters to another partial filter adapter in said plurality of partial filter adapters wherein each partial filter adapter in said plurality of partial filter adapters comprises a general partial filter adapter having functionality determined by a parameter.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 8 wherein said general partial filter adapter comprises an eXtensible Style sheet Language Transformation processor, and said parameter comprises an eXtensible Style sheet Language Transformation script.

10. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a medium configured to store or transport computer readable code for a method comprising:

receiving a request for data;
retrieving, from a filter registry in response to said request, a rule set for a plurality of partial filter adapters wherein, upon being chained together said plurality of partial filter adapters converts source data to said data; and

building a filter using said rule set wherein said filter comprises a chain of said plurality of partial filter adapters wherein each partial filter adapter includes a generic format independent interface and said generic format independent interface is used in passing data from one partial filter adapter in said plurality of partial filter adapters to another partial filter adapter in said plurality of partial filter adapters; and
processing a subset of the source data by said filter to produce said data.

Cancel Claim 11.

Cancel Claim 12.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer-based method comprising:

receiving a request for data having a first format from a process requiring data in one of at least two data formats including at least a second format and a third format;

selecting said second data format;

retrieving, from a filter registry in response to said request, a rule set for a plurality of partial filter adapters wherein, ~~upon~~ after being chained together said plurality of partial filter adapters can be used to convert said data from said first format to said second format; and

building a filter using said rule set wherein said filter comprises a chain of said plurality of partial filter adapters wherein each partial filter adapter includes a generic format independent interface and said generic format independent interface is used in passing data from one partial filter adapter in said plurality of

partial filter adapters to another partial filter adapter in said plurality of partial filter adapters.

Cancel Claim 14.

15. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim ~~14~~ 13, wherein said selecting said second data format further comprises:

using a selection scheme including at least one of the following criterion: storage space required by said data in each of said at least two data formats supported by said process; conversion time for said data from said first data format into each of said at least two data formats supported by said process; and a quality for each of said at least two data formats.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 13 further comprising:

converting said data in said first format to data in said second format using said filter.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 13 wherein said generic format independent interface is a Simple API for XML interface

18. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of Claim 13~~ A computer-based method comprising:

receiving a request for data having a first format from a process requiring data in a second format;
retrieving, from a filter registry in response to said request, a rule set for a plurality of partial filter adapters wherein after being chained together said plurality of partial filter adapters can be used to

convert said data from said first format to said second format; and

building a filter using said rule set wherein said filter comprises a chain of said plurality of partial filter adapters wherein each partial filter adapter includes a generic format independent interface and said generic format independent interface is used in passing data from one partial filter adapter in said plurality of partial filter adapters to another partial filter adapter in said plurality of partial filter adapters wherein each partial filter adapter in said plurality of partial filter adapters comprises a general partial filter adapter having functionality determined by a parameter.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 18 wherein said general partial filter adapter comprises an eXtensible Style sheet Language Transformation processor, and said parameter comprises an eXtensible Style sheet Language Transformation script.

20. (Currently Amended) A structure comprising:
a memory including a partial filter adapter library; and a partial filter adapter registry wherein said partial filter adapter registry includes a rule set; and
a filter server, coupled to said partial filter adapter registry and to said partial filter adapter library, comprising:
a conversion service;
a protocol reader coupled to said conversion service;
a chain factory coupled to said conversion service;
a service manager coupled to said chain factory and to said partial filter adapter library; and

a filter registry service coupled to said chain factory and to said partial filter adapter registry wherein said filter server uses said rule set to build a filter using a plurality of partial filter adapters from said partial filter adapter library.

21. (Currently Amended) A structure comprising:

a processor; and

a memory coupled to said processor and having stored therein computer program instructions wherein execution of said computer program instructions on said processor generates a method comprising:

a first partial filter adapter having a generic format independent interface; and

a second partial filter adapter having said generic format independent interface coupled to said first partial filter adapter.

receiving a request for data from a device;

determining data formats supported by said device wherein said data formats includes at least two data formats including at least a second data format and a third data format;

selecting said second data format for a format of said data;

retrieving, from a filter registry in response to said request, a rule set for a plurality of partial filter adapters wherein, after being chained together said plurality of partial filter adapters can be used to convert source data to said data; and

building a filter using said rule set wherein said filter comprises a chain of said plurality of partial filter adapters wherein each partial filter adapter includes a generic format independent interface and said generic format independent

interface is used in passing data from one partial filter adapter in said plurality of partial filter adapters to another partial filter adapter in said plurality of partial filter adapters wherein said filter converts said source data from a first format to said second format.

22. (Original) The structure of Claim 21 wherein said generic format independent interface is a simple API for XML interface.

23. (Original) The structure of Claim 22 wherein said simple API for XML interface is a XML document handler interface.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for rendering accessible data stored in a first data format in a first computer system for a second computer system supporting a second data format, said method comprising:

receiving in said first computer system a request from said second computer system for said data;

receiving in said first computer system information about at least one data format supported by said second computer system;

selecting said second data format, if said first computer system was informed about more than one data format supported by said second computer system;

comparing in said first computer system said first data format with said second data format,

generating a filter for converting said data from said first data format into said second data format, if said first data format is incompatible with said second data format, by combining a first partial filter adapter

to a second partial adapter for the transformation of data; and

converting said data in said first computer system, using said filter, from said first data format into said second data format.